

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

TIMES-UNION

DEC 9 1969

M - 156,288

S - 175,150

IN COUNTERFEITING*Prints Link Man*By OTIS PERKINS
Staff Writer

A Secret Service agent testified Monday he found on bogus \$20 bills the fingerprints of one of three defendants on trial in a counterfeiting case here.

Agent Robert L. Ball, fingerprint technician from Secret Service headquarters in Washington, told a federal court jury that he found thumb prints of Raymond Osborne Capehart on two of 174 bills confiscated by other agents in the local case.

HOWEVER, Ball said, he found no prints of the other two defendants, Frank E. Walker, 67, and Robert Davis, 32, of Hilliard.

Also at the trial, which enters its fifth day today, key government witness James J. Taylor testified he formerly worked with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and that he acquired a police record after leaving the investigative service.

It is through the testimony of Taylor, now an inmate of the federal prison in Lewisburg, Pa., that the government has linked Walker with an alleged counterfeiting conspiracy. Taylor also has given eyewitness testimony against Davis.

Taylor was on the stand when court recessed for the weekend last Friday and continued under cross-examination much of the day on Monday.

TAYLOR TOOK the stand after initially refusing on grounds he had been threatened in prison. He was sent to Lewisburg after pleading guilty to taking part in the counterfeiting operation for which the other three men now are on trial.

Monday's proceedings also included introduction of documentary evidence by Asst. U.S. Atty. Allan Clark. This action was marked by objections by defense attorneys S. Perry Penland and W.

Shea — for Walker and Davis — and Baker King, court-appointed lawyer for Capehart. Several delays ensued while U.S. District Judge Charles R. Scott ruled on technical questions.

Clark indicated the government may close its case today.

Ball said the prints he found were on bills the Secret Service had confiscated from Taylor's Jacksonville hotel room last Jan. 8. He said he also found other prints he was unable to identify because he had no basis of comparison. The local Secret Service office had submitted the fingerprints of Walker, Davis and Capehart for comparison.

OTHER GOVERNMENT documentary evidence included bills allegedly passed at three bars here; drinking cups and three half-pints of whisky said to have been purchased with bogus bills. One witness said the purchasers were in a truck similar to one in which Capehart and Stephen Ralph Carmean later were halted.

Carmean, who said he wasn't then 21, had told of driving the truck while Capehart bought liquor with \$20 bills. The two later were stopped in the early hours of Jan. 9 and were held in a police car while the Secret Service arrived. A witness said Capehart dropped objects from a window while in the back seat.

Secret Service Agent Joseph H. Villeneuve and Patrolman W. V. Sykes said the objects proved to be crumpled counterfeit notes. Capehart later was arrested and charged. Carmean was named a coconspirator but not a defendant in the indictment.

TAYLOR ALSO implicated Carmean and another government witness, Dave Cartner. Taylor said Carmean provided dirt to rough up the bills and that Carmean and Cartner went out to "unload" the bills. Taylor said he never

saw Capehart rough or try to pass bills.

Asked by Clark if he were offered anything to testify for the government, Taylor said

no, adding that by testifying, "I think I've done myself more harm than anything I've done in my life." He explained he faced danger in prison for testifying for the government.

Taylor said none of the money — \$3,800 in counterfeit notes he said he got from Davis — was supposed to have been passed. Instead, he testified, he was supposed to take it to his home state of Maryland to find a buyer. Taylor said he passed one bill and that several others were passed after he, Capehart, Cartner and Carmean went on a drinking spree.

He said he led the Secret Service to Davis after being caught. He claimed also that his promise to dispose of the money back East was Walker's condition for backing a deep-sea copper cable salvage operation, which Taylor said was worth \$25 million.

Taylor said he was an underwater demolition specialist for the CIA, when the agency was headed by Allen Dulles. After leaving it, he said, he had two convictions in Arizona involving "false pretenses" and had had other arrests.